

October 23, 2025

QB Marcus Mariota

On how he expects the team to respond in challenging moments:

“Exactly how they did today with energy, with enthusiasm. We have, like I said, after the game, we have the right guys in the locker room and truly believe in what we’re building here. And it’s the NFL, you’re going to kind of go through these valleys and at the end of the day, we have the guys in there to climb out of it, and I’m fortunate to be a part of it.”

On what it’s like playing at Arrowhead Stadium:

“I love playing there. It’s such a fun atmosphere. The fans are great. It’s loud and I truly enjoy it. And at the end of the day, like it’s going to come down to us. Being able to communicate. It is a tough environment but at the same time, like that’s what you play for. You love these moments, you love these atmospheres, and I’m really looking forward to it.”

On what has contributed to his past success playing at Arrowhead Stadium:

“First and foremost, I just love the atmosphere. It reminds me a lot of college. I love playing on the road. I think that kind of us versus everybody mentality is something that I really feel like I’ve thrived on in my career. But I just, again, I love playing at Arrowhead. I actually have family there. So, I do get to see some family and at the end of the day, when it comes down to it, it is a tough place to play, but as long as you get everybody going on the same page and you’re communicating, you know it allows you to be able to execute and do what you need to do.”

On helping the team center its identity:

“Well, when it comes down to it’s looking at each other and doing what you preach. We talk about brotherhood, we talk about the culture and right now it’s being challenged and I think our guys are willing to step up to that challenge, but it’s not just something that you’re going to kind of like quietly talk about over here or kind of quietly do over here. It really comes down to everyone just coming together. And like I said we have a bunch of guys that have been in these scenarios before, have been in these situations, have played a lot of football, and really when it comes down to it, just leaning in on that experience and believing in one another. And I think, like I said, we have the guys in that locker room to do that.”

On if QB Jayden Daniels being declared out early in the week helps his preparation:

“You know, honestly for me it doesn’t change a whole lot. I really try to prepare, like I’m the starter every week and I try to do all the mental reps. Now more so I’m getting just more physical reps than I am the mental part of it. But I try not to change my process through the week just because I feel like as long as I got my process, I can lean on that, whether I’m playing or not and it’s worked well for me over the course of the last couple years. Just being around [Offensive Coordinator] Kliff [Kingsbury] and [Quarterbacks Coach] Tavita [Pritchard] and the rest of the offensive staff, like, I feel really confident in the way that we prepare, and I just go about it the same way.”

On what Daniels is like when he's not playing:

“Great support system man, he just as much involved if as if you were playing. And I truly appreciate that about him. Whether he's talking about things that he's seen on tape or whether he's getting a tidbit here and there from guys. Maybe he's reached out to like all the information that he gathers during the course of a week; he shares with us whether he's playing or not. And I appreciate that about him. I think that's what makes him different than a lot of people is his ability just to stay engaged whether he is playing or not.”

On potentially having WR Terry McLaurin and WR Deebo Samuel Sr. back against the Kansas City Chiefs:

“Well, it's fun to have them out there at practice first and foremost. Those guys are not only unbelievable football players, but they're great leaders. And when you go through these kind of adverse situations and you're kind of going and dealing with these valleys as a team, it's nice to kind of get a spark with those guys coming back out on the field. So, nice having them around. We'll hopefully continue to see as they trend towards the game, but for me, it's nice to throw to those guys for sure.”

On Daniels being able to compartmentalize the pressures of being a franchise quarterback on a daily basis:

“Yeah, I'm going to be completely honest with you, I didn't do a very good job of it when I was in Tennessee. And for me, I wanted to be able to provide Jay with just, ‘Hey man, I've been there before. I understand the frustration.’ And sometimes it's not even just talking, it's just like, bro, I'll sit here all day with you in the locker room and just kind of be there and be a presence for him. So, at the end of the day it is tough when you are brought in to be that guy. I think the pressures and the challenges that come with that is a privilege, but it is something that I think is very unique and something that you're maybe not used to. And the more that I can just continue to be there for him and help him through these situations, and even right now just kind of getting our guys ready to roll and hopefully when he gets back, he's ready to roll, there's momentum and we got a spark and we're playing well. So, it's just things like that where, hey man, you're not in this alone. And just making sure he understands that and the more that he can kind of lean into all of us as a team, I think the better he'll feel, the healthier he'll feel. And when he is ready to come back, he'll be good to go.”

On what he sees from Kansas City on tape:

“Yeah, and it's so interesting because when I was at the Titans, I played against Spags [Kansas City Chiefs Defensive Coordinator Steve Spagnolo] and that's, I mean, he's been there for a long time. And what's cool, just from an observer and just watching tape of them, they just have so many interchangeable parts where they can get guys that maybe played safety in college that played linebacker, that they can kind of move around and maybe plays in the post, maybe he's playing in the box. So, they do a great job of just kind of creating different and unique looks. And then on top of that, when you got good players, when you got guys like [Kansas City Chiefs DT] Chris Jones up front, [Kansas City Chiefs CB Trent] McDuffie and those guys when they're rolling too, they're playing great. But it's a very unique challenge and one that, it's kind of funny, I can even go look back in my notes from almost 10 years ago and he's completely changed on how he does it. And the challenge that it poses to us is, it's so unique kind of year to year, maybe even game to game. So, for us being able to communicate and just getting everybody on the same page, that way at the end of the day we can just go out there and execute what our plan is.”